

TOC H JOURNAL

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Communications for next month's issue must reach the Editor not later than the 15th of this month.

THIS FAMILY IDEA

The following was suggested to a Madras member by some words quoted by Tubby in his article in the June JOURNAL—"The job is to make people enquire further, to get their curiosity awakened."

AFRICA was ever quoted by the ancients as the land of the Something New. India is the land of the Everything Old. And so, recently, it was not surprising to find that instead—as many ignorant people think—of Toc H having first taken root in Madras in the autumn of 1925, there are the clearest indications that the root idea is at least two thousand years older.

As a few people still are not quite familiar (in spite of the new *Britannica*) with Sanskrit, it is perhaps safer to quote from translations rather than the original text of the ancient yellow *Journal* in the vernacular, *anno* B.C. 71 *circa*.

A flood of light is thus thrown on this Family Idea of modern Toc H.

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Imagine then some white-robed Aryan Sage of Toc H Long Ago, speaking to certain strangers who wanted information. "This clan-relation of ours is due neither to force nor fraud, nor to any calculation of personal gain or advantage. It has its source and its power in the sentiment of religion. Its one unfailing centripetal force is community of worship. The symbol of that common worship is a meal shared in honour of God. Therefore we call our corporate body by a variety of names, of which the chief is "The Household."

Here I rubbed my eyes to see if I really was awake, or had gone back in dreams to a Madras of B.C. 71. No—I had not. But Toc H evidently had.

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I listened again to that Speaker of Long Ago:—"Over this Household the House-Father presides." (Something whispered to me softly that his family pet name might have been "Skinny.") "He is charged with the management of the property of the Household, and with the celebration of its worship. Sooner or later, when the Household becomes immoderately large, of its own free will it is divided up into several lesser households, all related to one another, but each holding distinct corporate property, and each maintaining its special worship. Within the Clan there is ever the truest loyalty and devotion of every Household to the others."

I rather liked the term "House-Father," so I asked if I could hear more about him, and what he did.

"Over the Household, the House-Father presides with absolute power, not as owner in his own right, but as the officer and representative of the corporate body. The members of the Household are bound together not by blood, nor by contract, but by the tie of the community of domestic worship, the joint perpetuation of the simple ceremonies peculiar and essential thereunto. Between the property of the Household and the performance of its ceremonies there is an indissoluble bond. The one supplies the means for the accomplishment of the other."

"And what is the most important office of the House-Father?" I asked.

"He keeps the holy hearth," said the speaker. (There evidently was the origin of The Lamp.)

"And can the House-Father do exactly as he likes?" I asked.

"The House-Father," he replied, "succeeds to an office and not to an estate. None can call him to account from without. He is responsible to the House-Spirit alone. But in ruling he must act with judgment and according to the Word in all things. And mostly he finds it expedient to act with the present help and advice of a family Council."

"Then what exactly is the Clan?" I asked.

"It is a large collection of Households, knit together by oneness of lineage, and based on common origin. It is even as the many branches of one great living and spreading tree."

I sat thinking. Quaint, how old all these ideas really are . . . Yet we think them modern.

I asked another question—"How should the members of the Household bear themselves?"

"Between the members," he replied, "very intimate relations must exist. They have a common worship, a common commandment, a common purpose to serve one another, and also humbly to serve all strangers. They render, in case of need, mutual help and support. They obey and honour a common head, the representative of Their Lord and Master."

"And are there any rules?" I asked, finally.

"Four only," said the speaker, "which be these—To spread the Clan-spirit—to set up new Households—to cleave after wisdom and truth—to bear witness without speech. . . . These are the received doctrines laid down by the Founder Father."

Verily the shadow goes not back upon the dial!

C. B. E.

Toc H Ties and Badges

The Central Executive wish to ask all members to avoid obtaining ties or badges except through Branch and Group Secretaries, or from the only officially authorised supplier, Charles Thompson, of Railway Approach, London Bridge Station, S.E.1.

THE YEOMAN

It is a point of honour with the poor to be supremely cheerful when in hospital. Their spirits rise against the ill which has befallen them, and what is best is uppermost.

If this is so to-day, when that which brings them there is not accounted as incurred in service to the State, it need not cause us wonder, looking backward, to recall the happiness which rested with the wounded during the war. Never was such gaiety of spirits, such humour in their pains, such mockery of knives and saws and scalpels. Even a limb more or less was not then so portentous an issue. Given your eyes and senses, what's the odds?

No one would be so crass as to forget some instances upon the other side of the shield; and those whose duty took them often to the wards at night would soon be solemnized by the change of atmosphere. Truth stood revealed through sleeplessness; and men unconquerably cheerful in the daylight, became at night a prey to pains and fears they could no more defy.

One stalwart man remains with me indelibly. He was a yeoman's son, big made and a man of the open. His wounds, for there were several, had no apparent gravity about them; so little, indeed, that I had not asked the surgeons. One night, when coming down the ward from a man with a fractured femur, I was almost startled to hear the yeoman sobbing. I halted; there was no mistake. I blundered in and knelt and prayed beside him. The prayer brought no relief, or so it seemed; but only a low and exceedingly bitter cry from him for whom I prayed.

I stood and began to solace him, to say the old, old things which never lose their power; and then he told me the truth with a simple shame that spoke of life and love, as God Himself devised them to be held among us.

His lass, long loved, was waiting for him; she had kept him straight all through their years of walking and of courting. He'd held to her in France, and now was homeward bound with wounds enough to give him his discharge, yet no—and here he faltered—no permanent disablement. Still blind to the significance of what he told me, I broke in with my stupid words of ready confidence. Yes, he was getting better. He soon would sail for home and she would wait for him. In my own thoughts it seemed the man was mad to be self-pitiful, when so well out of it for good.

Then with a groan and a few words he silenced me. He had sustained the cruellest of wounds, the ghastliest indignity of all. His manhood was torn from him. His faculty of fatherhood, so continently kept by this dumb honest lover, was beyond hope destroyed. He did not grieve so sorely for any loss of pleasure; it was for the sons he craved, who now could never be. And she—who must now be told—yes, they had shyly named Them, when he went home on leave. "Arthur" and "Edith" were to be the first children; and, if God gave them more, why—"James" and "Jean."

So the dream children faded; and he who could no longer be their father moaned for them all night long.

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Toc H cannot be expected or employed to "run" campaigns and crusades. Its function is far different, and its ordinary work would suffer or stand still. None the less, this *Journal* now finds its way to many men, members and others; and forms a channel of good influence, far beyond all early hopes. May I then ask all such to share my poignant recollection of the Yeoman, and dedicate some time and leadership to the very grave issue of foul language in offices and workshops? A really great Headmaster, who has put hundreds of his old boys into Toc H, wrote a letter to me recently, giving it as his considered verdict, that obscene talk in the offices is the hardest trial to which these juniors are subjected. The awful sense of loneliness which comes to a youngster who is as yet an unimportant stranger, and in no position to interfere, should stir the silent senior to take action. A Toc H badge in any place of work or play must come to be recognised as a sign—and signs are spoken against—that depraved talk will be given no quarter and no compromise. Whether ways can be found, and suggested at serious moments in the Groups and Branches, whereby something more effective than isolated action can be taken, it is not for me to say. That public opinion is terribly tolerant of this undoubted evil, and that men seem to despair of checking it, I know only too well. I know also the results, which are miserable, hideous, and tragic in many youngsters' lives; who never reckoned that men—and women—in the offices of large important companies could fling this vile stuff to and fro in working hours with complete impunity. They, on their side, don't know the harm it does; or I, for one, believe they only need to be told. Told they must be; and Toc H. should surely help in this, remembering the present lads, the Yeoman, and the Gospel.

TUBBY.

SONG IN A CITY

A blackbird sang in Southwark Park:
 O joy! such sunshine did he bring
 Into this garden, set in gloom and dark
 Of chimneys' smoke, I too must sing
 In silent praise of that so strangely sweet,
 Dimming the clamour of a grey-paved London street.

Say, didst thou from the sunlit distant hills,
 Borne on the whispering wings of dawn,
 Speed the first hope of Spring that fills
 My soul with strains of sunlit morn?
 'Tis sure thy yellow bill is lift in praise
 Of Him who sent thee winging down these ways.

Wilt stay, my little bird of plumage black,
 And charm away the greyness with thy song?
 Alas! the meadow's hawthorn bank must summon back
 Its own . . . Just then, swift beat of wing—and blackbird's gone . . .
 Now all's so dull again; only the echoes of his merry song
 Are left to cheer my way the whole day long.

C. C.

TOC H AND THE SEAFARER

In July we published a note ("Soundings at Sea") by three members who found in their first touch with life on board ship an incentive to Toc H work. Now we are able to print the main part of a memorandum in which Padre PRIOR GRANT of New York expresses his thoughts on the same subject.

THE idea of setting Toc H effectively in force and at work among seafarers has been constantly in the background of the New York contact with the Movement. It is New York *as a port* that, for some reason, has stood out and overshadowed all other aspects of the city in its relation to Toc H. This has been so consistently true and so contrary to reasonable expectation, that one is inclined to ask if it may not have sufficient significance to demand recognition and require consideration of its possible development. This interest in the sea came to Toc H New York through a job of friendly service to boys undertaken by it at the request of Toc H Southampton. In beginning this job there was no conception of its possible ramifications and leadings. There has simply been growing in the minds of those in touch with it the realisation that something of vital importance both for Toc H and for human welfare in this great industry is at point. There has been every reason to overlook it, every combination of circumstances to put it aside. But it continues to fascinate and to challenge. From the first it has been the industry itself, not merely a group of boys, that has goaded thought. Slowly and definitely has come a *conviction* that Toc H is the best possible method of dealing with the problems and attitudes of seafaring life. But that is as far as matters have gone. The issue now is how to work it out.

The complication is that the real problem lies beyond the usual fellowship and service of Toc H ashore. All seafarers are held within the horizon of the one industry. Life, love, work and play are dominated by rules, conditions, traditions that come too close to be seen in perspective. Fellowship and service have as much need and place in the merchant service as anywhere else, but illumination of the controlling forces and freedom to move among them are essentials of any proper method of meeting the problems of seafaring life. If Toc H is the method it must do two things at the same time. It must (1) start in characteristic fashion among men who go to sea and give them the usual meetings, discussions, jobs, etc.; and (2) it must stimulate within the economic group governing the industry the same spirit of fairmindedness, service and co-operation. This last is to be done not directly and by appeal, but by observing and collecting facts about things affecting human life in the industry and by studies which would bear their own weight and implications.

The chief need, moreover, both for the development of Toc H and for dealing intelligently and effectively with the fundamental problems of seagoing life is for something to function on the ships themselves. The service envisioned need not be confined to workers, but should include passengers as well, and the general aim should be to make transport the most rounded service possible, eliminating all rough edges and oiling all the machinery with humour, patience and fore-

thought. The traveller is exposed to so many moods and problems and, for the most part, is unfamiliar with the conditions and contingencies awaiting him at every turn. Pride of work and a keen spirit of service on the part of shipping personnel could literally transform the outlook now so often sour and enduring.

There would seem to be room on board ship for a man of proper qualifications to be actively concerned with the well-being of the persons aboard. For passengers he would be a source of guidance, protection and advice, and for the crew not only a friend and counsellor, but a liaison between them and their employers. He would in effect be a personnel officer under no department of the ship, there only to serve personal and group needs and to think constructively about the things of his observation. These men would be grouped into a department of a company (and possibly in time into a conference of the industry) and all information and suggestions be properly recorded and weighed. Studies of sociological and industrial import could be instituted by such a department and the human problem involved be thus illuminated and overseen. The shore office could deal with many family and social situations and bring into the lives of workers a sense of security and comfort that would react inevitably upon the good of the company.

These personnel officers should be men of university and technical training. Especially should they have a knowledge of mental hygiene and industrial psychiatry and be possessed personally of a spiritual purpose and vision that would save them from narrow or partisan conformity. The Toc H spirit of reconciliation should prevail among them in every sense and leadership rather than officiousness mark every instance of their work. They should be laymen, not Padres. The use of Padres would tend to limit the scope of the effort chiefly to services and the public worship conception of religion and this would miss the point of the whole need. The spirit sought would naturally issue in worship because it would be the spirit of love in action, but it would come by the usual Toc H route of indirection and individual conviction.

A Padre might well be in charge of the department, provided he has the necessary technical social work training, in order to keep alive the true spirit of the work in all members of the department. Toc H so embodies the spirit of this department's service that a company in sympathy with the Movement might well turn over to Toc H the task of selecting and training men and organising in gradual fashion the first effort. Toc H development among seafarers would be greatly helped thereby and the company making the first experiment would be reassured as to the spirit in which it would be done. In co-operation with the medical department of a company, the Travellers' Aid and all agencies for seamen ashore, together with Toc H groups in ports and on ships, a co-ordinated service of important consequences could be instituted. The increased efficiency and contentment of men in the industry would pay for the cost of such a department many times over and the publicity deriving to the company ready to introduce such a service would redound to its lasting benefit.

P. McN. G.

ASHORE AT PORT SAID :

Padre Bob Slater slipped away from Mark XVIII, Newcastle, and the Northern Area in the Summer, was married and sailed for Rangoon, before most members realised that he was going to a big new job. He left as a parting gift to Toc H at home the little book which is noticed on the next page. With his mind still full of the "Farewells" of his friends at home, he took the first opportunity of the voyage to Burma to send to the JOURNAL the following contribution, which he describes as "Sundry reflections on the Christian joy of parting."

PORT SAID, say those much experienced voyagers who have travelled east and west of Suez, not once, but many times, has changed very much for the better in the last ten years. No need now to fear that the boatman who rows you ashore will take you some circuitous way and suddenly call a halt until he has wrung an extra tribute from your feverish soul, hungry for land after liberal quantities of Mediterranean.

If you are still very proud of Western efficiency, order, sanitation, and the like, you will feel a thrill of joy when you find the prim, cool suburb on the western shore, with blocks of flats reminiscent of Paris or even Oslo. But if this is your first journey East, you will be just as thrilled at the sight of the quaint tramway—single line, car drawn by a mule, seating capacity not more than twenty, speed about half a mile an hour!—at the sight of the chicken picking up the crumbs in the cafe where you attempt to lunch, interrupted at every bite by passing pedlars, who offer you Turkish delight, silk shawls, headgear, or the latest and oldest examples of conjuring skill. East and West come together in fascinating contrast at this Clapham Junction of ocean travel. . . .

But the memory which lingers most with the present scribe is the memory of two funeral groups seen at Port Said. Contrast here enough, but not, perhaps, to be described as "fascinating."

Straight from the docks, runs a street of shops and cafes, until one reaches the hospital. Outside the hospital, seated in the roadway, robed in sombre black, were little groups of Moslem women. Someone suggested that there had been a death, and the women had assembled for that Eastern wailing which greets the dread Presence. It seemed a likely conjecture, for outside the hospital gate a forlorn little group waited patiently, and in their midst was a rude coffin. Death was victor in that hot, dusty, sun-baked street, with its huddled, cowering vanquished, heaps of humanity.

Two hours later another funeral company took possession of another street in Port Said—not this time a Moslem company, but some fifty Christians, members, apparently, of the Roman Catholic Church. A wee cherub of a boy, in cassock and white cotta, walked proudly in front, bearing a simple Cross. Behind him came servers, then a venerable priest, then a most ornate funeral coach, bright with shining gilt decoration, drawn by four horses in rich harness; then the kinsmen and their friends, all on foot. Looking on, one felt that here joy was sister to sorrow, death was swallowed up in victory: it was, and seemed, a *Christian* funeral. . . .

A Moslem funeral procession, *en route*, may be similar, may use a similarly decorated coach, and suggest a similar triumph. I do not know. I only know that the contrast between the two scenes—the black-robed, sorrowful Moslem women mourning their dead, and this Christian company passing along with an appearance of steadfast faith—made one think violently of that great contrast between Christian and non-Christian in the presence of Death and Severance.

Read such a life as *Temple Gairdner of Cairo*, read how the tireless, over-worked pioneer talked of joy and hope and victory when Death came to take away his chief friend and fellow worker, at a time when he seemed most needed; read, too, how Gairdner, with Franciscan simplicity, recited and multiplied *Benedicite*, giving thanks and singing praise as death drew near to him in the desert hospital, and understood again the depth and wonder of Christian joy, understood it the more clearly against the dark background of so much that is despairing, fearful and sinister in Eastern life and religion.

The same truth is written large in the story of Toc H. Born on red Flanders soil—stained red by the blood of human pain; cradled in the House at Poperinghe which stood on the very borderland of Death and Destruction; revived by men whose dearest, sharpest memories were memories of brothers who had passed to the other side, Toc H has always sounded, richly and triumphantly, the note of Christian joy. "To live together in love and joy and peace."

And to live together, not only with those whose hands we still touch, whose eyes we still see, whose voices we hear; but to live together with those separated, but not lost, by a thousand miles of sea and land; to live together with those separated, but not lost, in Death; to live together, in joy.

This, surely, is part of what we mean when we gather round the light of the lamp, and remember the Elder Brethren. As the Family, here on earth, grows in size each passing year, so, too, does that greater family of the Elder Brethren. The last year, especially, has seen the passing of many who were much beloved in Toc H, and those left to shoulder the burden cannot but feel the sting of parting. All the more need, then, to sing *Benedicite* and make the Christian claim that Death is swallowed up in Victory, in the victory of One Whose Presence spells, not separation, but Joy; all the more need to make this religion world-wide, so that joy may abound.

R. H. L. S.

The Building and Endowment Funds: A Distinction

Branches and Groups and members who are trying to raise money for Toc H are asked to take special notice of H.R.H. the Patron's announcement at the Albert Hall that from January 1, 1930, his appeal for money for Toc H is associated with the Building Fund, and not with the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund will remain open, and gifts to it will be received most gratefully. But our main concern as regards money raising is now to obtain, by recruiting Toc H Builders and otherwise, money for H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Toc H Building Fund. Money received for the Endowment Fund must all be invested, and only the interest can be used. The Building Fund can be used *either* for investment or immediate needs, as seems to the Central Executive to be most in the interests of Toc H.

TOC H IN THE ROYAL NAVY

This account of the work of a Toc H Group in the Royal Navy is written by ARTHUR WILLIAM HORTON, Able Seaman on H.M.S. Effingham, East Indies Station.

TOC H as far as the H.M.S. *Effingham* Group is concerned has been true to the traditions of the Services and has remained "silent," at all events we have not as yet blossomed into print.

Shortly after we arrived on the East Indies Station as Flagship, the Padre tried to get men interested to see if it were at all possible to start a Group in a sea-going ship. The experiment appeared to be full of hope and there was soon quite a number of men who "thought it was a good show." Many, however, dropped out when they discovered that it was, as they thought, mixed up with religion and might be a "Parson's Show." Numbers dwindled down to a sound nucleus of about 30 members. Early in 1928 we became registered as a Group, our first members having been initiated by the Bombay Branch. The enthusiasm and spirit of the Colombo and Bombay Branches set our young Group going, and many men learnt the meaning of a phrase they had read in Toc H literature—namely, "To spread the Gospel without preaching it."

It was seen from the outset that it would be difficult in the Service for our jobmaster to give a member a job to do on board. The rest of the Ship's Company would resent anything being done by a "group of men" whose aims and ideas they were not quite certain about. It was therefore decided to confine our activities to work ashore with other groups and to do jobs on board which could be done without anyone knowing that a Toc H member was responsible. In this way one helped to break down an idea (common not only to sailors) that if you do a "job of work" you must be getting something out of it.

The branches that we see most of are Colombo and Bombay in that order. We attend their meetings when in port and help where we can. One evening *Effingham* Group entertained the Colombo Branch to supper at the British Sailors' and Soldiers' Institute, after which we gave them a concert and sing-song when many longshoremen found themselves singing songs "they'd never sung before." On a previous evening Colombo dined the *Effingham*, when the Naval Padre gave a most interesting lecture on Zeebrugge and Ostend which I am sure was greatly appreciated by everyone present. At Bombay we attended their lectures and meetings and through these "jolly evenings" many sailor members have met some really good friends, and a friend such as Toc H can produce means a tremendous lot to a man serving in H.M. ship on this station. The ship has so far only visited Calcutta once, but on this occasion they extended to us such a wonderful welcome that we are looking forward to seeing them once again this Christmas when we visit that wonderful port.

On our recent cruise to East Africa and the Islands in the Indian Ocean we had the misfortune to lose our Jobmaster, known throughout the ship as "Lord Effingham," a man who has never been known to be without a job. By an unfortunate accident on board he injured his right leg, which has since had to be amputated just above the knee. He is at present at the European Hospital at Dar-es-Salaam, where he is being entertained in royal style by the Toc H Group, which we were unfortunate to miss last year owing to our brief visit. He recently wrote to the Padre in cheerful tones saying that he was allowed a bottle of beer a day (bottled in 1914!), but as there were 25 bottles of beer left in the hospital the doctor suggested that he should remain in hospital "until the beer's all gone." His name is Stoker G. Meader and by this unfortunate accident the service loses a fine worker and we a very lovable shipmate.

Able Seaman N. Jackson has taken over his duties as Jobmaster and is never happy unless he is "looking for another job" for the Group ashore. The Group has also been fortunate in having the services of Paymaster-Lieutenant Bishop as Chairman and Treasurer, but unfortunately for us he leaves in December.

During the cruise we of course had some splendid times, such as picnics, etc., when we entertained the boys, but space will not permit a full account of them. Sufficient to say that this

account of "Innocents Abroad" would not be complete without some mention of Kenya. At Mombasa we found some very keen members who before long will be the foundation of a very live Branch. They are at present doing a very fine work in helping the Missions to Seamen to entertain and make life more enjoyable for the Sailors of the Mercantile Marine who visit the "Liverpool of East Africa." While we were there a dance was organised in aid of the Missions to Seamen. The Band of the Royal Marines from *Effingham* provided the music and the venture realised about £40. A few of us were privileged to visit Nairobi as members of Rugger and Soccer teams and the "Ship Concert Party." Here we found a small number starting to form a Group and they appeared to be going about things in the right way, for what is needed in Kenya more than most places we visit is something which will make men feel that they are part of a Big Brotherhood which by its spirit of Fellowship will help many of them to fight the greatest of all battles—the battle of loneliness.

The ship returns to England next year after two and a half years in Eastern waters, and we hope that most if not all the *Effingham* Group will join up with either their home town Branches or the Portsmouth Branch whilst they are in England.

A. W. H.

COLOMBO—"THE HALF-WAY HOUSE"

MONTH by month a steady stream of British boys flows outward to Australia, there to farm under various schemes, fostered by the Government. And never a week passes without Colombo being full of passengers, of all sorts, shapes and conditions. We can leave the first-class ones to their own devices . . . a motor trip to Kandy maybe, a swim at Mount Lavinia, or liquid refreshment at the Galle Face Hotel.

But the others? . . . You see them drifting aimlessly around in hot little groups, pestered by importunate shopkeepers, buying rubbish at high prices, and wilting visibly under a tropical sun. It is to prevent the youngsters (travelling chiefly under the Big Brother Movement) from participating in this dreary programme that decided Toc H to rush in. . . . So far it has only been possible to tackle the parties of boys who are travelling on the Orient liners, because these ships arrive punctually at daybreak on a Saturday—the only day, or rather half-day, which Toc H members have free. The Department of Immigration, Australia House, advise us as to how many to expect—numbers ranging from 20 to 50—and we go aboard, complete with launch. The boys are invariably ready, the Welfare Officer having been warned by wireless, and after a certain amount of agitation we steam across the harbour to Mutwal—our guests decidedly suspicious as to what is going to happen to them.

At Mutwal, there is a delightful Scout Camp overlooking the sea; excellent bathing, fishing, a fair imitation of woods at home—and a cook, who puts up an astonishingly good lunch. The morning soon passes, and by half-past two, our special fleet of Toc H cars is arriving to take the boys for a long drive—enabling them to see much more than the aforesaid first-classers! Back to camp later; soccer; another bathe, and a large tea, provided by various kindly ladies. (All these lads, between 15 and 18, have expanding stomachs—that's been proved.) After tea games, a sing-song and back to the ship by seven o'clock. Now the boys come from all over Great Britain—a large proportion from Scotland and the mining areas; all are poor—and few could afford the money to come ashore at all were it not for Toc H. Appreciative? Well, they seem to have adopted a regular motto, which is "The best day I've had in my life" . . . and then it is a series of "best days" for us too.

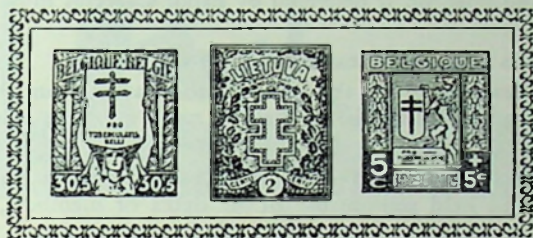
Two hundred boys have passed through so far, and are now arriving every fortnight. Good luck to 'em!

A. G.

A TOC H STAMP CLUB

IT is certain that the royal science of philately is among the recreations of quite a number of Toc H members, and a proposal now comes from one of them whereby stamp-collectors can do a bit in the pursuit of their hobby to help the Endowment Fund. It is proposed to start a Toc H Stamp Exchange Club, in which a commission (less cost of stationery and postage) on all sales would be deducted and sent to the Toc H Fund. The Club would also serve the fellowship of Toc H by bringing members in all parts, at present unknown to each other, into touch. Those who did not wish to become members but were willing to assist the Endowment Fund in this way, would be invited to forward stamps for inclusion in a "Toc H packet," and in these cases the entire proceeds of such sales would go to Toc H. Members and friends overseas, note especially. All members of Toc H and L.W.H. interested are asked herewith to write to the Hon. Secretary of the proposed Club, J. H. Wake, 39, Truro Road, London, N.22.

The rules which follow are modelled on those commonly in use.



Proposed Rules

(1) *Membership.*—Members of Toc H and L.W.H. are eligible to join the Club and will be required to furnish information as to what Branch or Group they are attached.

(2) A commission of 10 per cent. will be deducted from all sales, and contributed to Toc H.

(3) Any member who wishes to discontinue seeing the packets (temporarily or permanently) must give at least one week's notice to the Hon. Secretary, to allow time for the alteration of the Postal List. All changes of address to be notified at once.

(4) Sheets of stamps* for inclusion in the Packets must reach the Hon. Secretary by the 24th of the month, for inclusion in the following month's Packet, which will then be sent out to the first member on the Postal List during the first week of the month. Members will receive the Packet in rotation. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed with sheets for their return, otherwise the cost of postage and stationery will be charged to member's account.

(5) All prices must be nett and marked above the stamps, which must be mounted on the right-hand side of the sheet.

(6) The Hon. Secretary has the right to refuse to circulate any sheets which are not in accordance with these rules.

* A standard size of sheet (about 5½ ins. by 8½ ins.) should be used. Outer covers with the printed title of the Club, space for collector's name and address, and columns for recording prices of stamps taken and by whom, etc., will be obtainable from the Hon. Secretary. (Outer covers 5s. 6d. per 250, inner sheets 2s. per 250.) A specimen book of sheets (cost about 1d.) will be sent to each member on enrolment.

- (7) No Packet will be sent out of Great Britain*
- (8) Each Packet should contain on receipt :—
 - (a) A series of member's sheets numbered consecutively in the top left-hand corner.
 - (b) A Postal List showing total number of sheets included and their value and a list of the names of members who are to see the Packet.
 - (c) An envelope containing gummed addressed labels for use in addressing the Packet to the next member.
 - (d) Advice slips for use in notifying the Hon. Secretary of the receipt and despatch of the Packet and the amount of purchases.
- (9) All unsigned spaces from which stamps have been removed must be notified to the Hon. Secretary, and members removing stamps must use a rubber name stamp or sign his name (in full) in the space.
- (10) Members must enter the number and value of purchases on the front of each sheet from which stamps are taken, also on one of the Advice Slips and the total number and amount on the Postal List. Such Advice Slips must be posted to the Hon. Secretary upon the despatch of the Packet, whether stamps have been purchased or not, and remit, at the same time, for stamps purchased.
- (11) The Packet, with the sheets in sequence, must be forwarded to the next member on the Postal List, by registered post, or, if delivered by hand, a receipt must be obtained from the receiving member.
- (12) One clear day is allowed for examination of the Packet.
- (13) A member is responsible for the safety of the Packet from the time of delivery to despatch to the next member and will be required to make good the value of same should any loss occur.
- (14) Whilst every care will be taken to ensure the safety of all stamps entrusted to the Hon. Secretary, he shall not be held responsible for the debts of members, or for stamps lost in transit.
- (15) All accounts will be settled and sheets returned to owners as soon as possible after the return of the Packet to the Hon. Secretary. Members with adverse balances must settle within a week of receipt of statement.

* As, under Universal Postal Regulations, used stamps can only be posted at ordinary (not printed paper) rates, the heavy cost of posting and insuring packets abroad and the long delays in circulation would make overseas membership of the Club too difficult. Overseas Toc H members would, however, be invited to forward "Want lists," which could be circulated to members of the Club. In any cases members at home or abroad, some of whom perhaps have ceased to collect stamps but still have old albums, might be ready to forward them to the Club to be sold for the benefit of Toc H.

"The Showmen's Auxiliary"

Many will remember Padre Bill Maddock's article on Talbot House for showmen. A Toc H Showmen's Auxiliary has now been sanctioned to maintain contact with Showmen who have become interested in Toc H and are in real sympathy with the movement and are willing to take such opportunities of service as their wandering life allows. Membership of the auxiliary does not in itself mean membership of Toc H, but "Auxiliaries" will be eligible for general membership after a year's "service" in the Auxiliary. The "auxiliaries" who are to endeavour to keep contact with Toc H units, will have membership cards of the ordinary pattern, but clearly marked "Showmen's Auxiliary," and they will shortly have button-hole badges with the letter "S" engraved on or across the Toc H Lamp. The Secretary of the Auxiliary, *pro tem.*, is Padre W. Maddock, Mark IX, Bristol.



A STABLE was Thy Court, and when
 Men turned to beasts, beasts would be men,
 They were Thy courtiers ; others none ;
 And their poor manger was Thy throne,
 No swaddling silks Thy limbs did fold,
 Though Thou could'st turn Thy rays to gold,
 No rockers waited on Thy Birth,
 No cradles stirred, nor songs of mirth ;
 And her chaste lap and sacred breast,
 Which lodged Thee first, did give Thee rest.

HENRY VAUGHAN, Christmas, 1656.

Drawing by Joyce M. Marsh, (I.W.H.)

WITH RONNIE GRANT IN SOUTH AFRICA

This diary of his Toc H journeyings is continued from the October JOURNAL.

August 17: Arrived at Bulawayo on Thursday, 8th, having travelled up with Mr. Buchanan, of the Waygood Otis Company, brother of G. D. Buchanan, who has been acting as our bursar at Johannesburg. Buchanan, who was inspecting the new lifts which his company had installed in Rhodesia, travelled with a gramophone and a stack of records. As there were three other gramophones in the same railway coach, I had rather more music than I cared for, but it certainly passed the time. I was met by Tredgold, the registrar, who took me off to the club for breakfast. Bulawayo has improved enormously since I last saw it; it has fine broad streets and its shops are of a class all to themselves. One is struck at once by the artistic way in which they were dressed, and the apparently better class of their merchandise. One at once also comes into a British atmosphere and the lounge in the hotel might have been that of any country club in England.

I called on Col. Birney, a sapper, who is General Manager of the Rhodesian Railways, and he at once asked me to come out and stay with him. I found his table stacked with Toc H JOURNALS, and apparently, though not a member, he has been a subscriber for some time. He is a tremendously keen scout, and is Scout Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia. Staying with him was a Mr. Friend, who probably holds a unique position, as he has been appointed by the Government as Director of Scouting for the schools.

We started with a mixed meeting of Toc H and Toc Emmas, followed by a joint picnic to the Matoppos. The picnic nearly fell to pieces. One of the Toc Emmas took me out in her car, and apparently had forgotten to put either water or oil in, with the result that four miles from the Matoppos the big-ends went, and we had finally to get lifts in other cars back. We only arrived at the Matoppos at 5 p.m., but I succeeded in getting a very successful cinema photograph of Rhodes' and Jamieson's graves. It is an astonishingly beautiful place—miles and miles of rugged kopjes with the trees putting on their spring tints, which in this country are the reverse of those at home, as the trees all start by putting on red foliage, so that it might have been an autumn landscape in the wildest part of Scotland. Both Toc H and Toc Emmas are extraordinarily keen and we discussed the possibility of starting an Everyman's Club. This is one of the great needs in Rhodesia. The heads of firms have their own club, as also the railways and the mines, but the young shopkeepers and clerks, who mostly live in boarding houses or rooms, have no place to go to at all, excepting the bar of the local pub. Bulawayo decided to endeavour to get a grant of land to build their own headquarters, which would also serve as an Everyman's Club, which would be run entirely by the members and the Toc Emmas, save for a boy to do the cleaning up. This idea was subsequently adopted by Livingstone and Broken Hill, so that I hope a chain of these clubs with reciprocal membership will be established right up the railway.

From Bulawayo I went up to Broken Hill, and there stayed in the Church House with Padre Ellis, who was in the Navy at the beginning of the war, serving in the *Hogue* when she was torpedoed with two other ships in 1914 in the North Sea and sunk. He was blown up when the ship was struck and went down with her, but was fortunately picked up by a Dutch boat, taken into Holland, and interned for a time. It has unfortunately left him very deaf. The community at Broken Hill consists almost entirely of railway employees and the men in the Broken Hill Lead and Zinc Mine. There are three separate and distinct communities: the mines, the railway, and the town, and Toc H is the only common meeting place. I went over the mine, and was also driven out to the Malangushi Dam; an enormous stretch of water about 40 miles out, which supplies enough power to furnish practically all the mines in Rhodesia. The water

is carried about three miles in a pipe line, and then goes over the cliff edge with a fall of about 1,500 feet. From the top of the cliff there is a magnificent view, and a very fine banda was built there for the Prince of Wales when he visited the Dam.

The centre of activity in Rhodesia at present is Ndola, about 200 miles north, which experts say is going to be a second Johannesburg. At the present moment this is a huge mining camp with men pouring in by every train, living in tents and lean-tos and largely speculating in township plots. I believe on the Roan and Antelope Mines something like £6,000,000 is being spent in development, and the place when completed, will probably be the most up-to-date mining township in the world.

From Broken Hill I went down to *Livingstone* and stayed with Eccles, deputy Director of Surveys, late company commander in the Coldstream Guards. Livingstone is an entirely different proposition, for as the capital, at present, of Northern Rhodesia, it is dominated by the Government Departments. The situation there was very much what it used to be in British East Africa in the early days with the tremendously hard line drawn between the official community and the merchants. The early success in Livingstone from a Toc H point of view was largely owing to the enthusiasm of the Governor, Sir Herbert Stanley, whom many of the Toc H members met at home prior to his departure for Ceylon. When he left there was the inevitable reaction, and I found the Group in very low water. Fortunately, as always seems to happen in Toc H, when at their lowest, they got a splendid reinforcement from Broken Hill and Salisbury; two members who were permanent-way inspectors on the railway were both transferred almost simultaneously to Livingstone, and I have no doubt that the Group will go ahead steadily in future. I spent a day at the Falls taking photographs. This I think is the one place in the world that never disappoints one; each time I have visited it it has far exceeded my anticipations. I also spent one afternoon in a canoe on the Zambesi, where I tried to get photographs of hippopotami. Three of them were obliging enough to show themselves, but as a canoe is not the most desirable craft to approach hippos in, I could not get near enough to take a photograph.

From Livingstone, I went back to Bulawayo, saw Harold Knox Shaw on his way home at the end of the British Association visit, and spent a week-end at Gwanda about 80 miles south of Bulawayo with my former Staff Captain and his wife.

August 31: Arrived at *Queque* at 10 p.m., and was met by about twenty Toc H men and three of the Toc Emmas. I was taken up to one of the mine messes, where seven of the Toc H fellows lived together, and we had tea and buns and an informal talk, but I had extraordinary difficulty in keeping awake. The secretary of the Group (Rix), who is manager of the local Phœnix Gold Mine, was home on leave, but I was lent the house of one of the Mine Captains, also on leave, and fed at the Toc H mess. The Group consists entirely of employees of the Globe and Phœnix and a few railway men. Opportunities of service are very small, but the Group is the main centre of social life of the place. I had a joint meeting (Toc H and Toc Emmas), an ordinary Toc H meeting, and a special meeting the third day, which they gave in order that I might criticise them, but as a matter of fact there was really nothing to criticise. They have a wonderful programme, and have papers read at every meeting on almost every variety of subject. At the regular meeting I attended, a local schoolmaster member was reading the part of an extraordinarily brilliant paper on Evolution. They also have their own Amateur Dramatic Society, which is a very fine example of what can be done to get and maintain the right spirit where there are very few obvious opportunities of serving.

From Queque, I went to *Salisbury*, the capital of Southern Rhodesia, and stayed with Capt. Borrodale Bell, the Government Statistician and District Scout Master. He has a delightful house with a most lovely garden and the whole place was an absolute bower of flowers. They

have very fine scout headquarters, in which Toc H has a room, and we again had a similar series of meetings, a picnic, and a social evening. The social evening, at which there were about sixty men and women present, started well by playing progressive Animal Grab. There was certainly no stiffness after everyone had been imitating dogs and cats at the top of their voices for about a quarter of an hour. The evening finished up with a most amusing sketch satirising the modern problem play, written and acted by Toc H men, who have achieved quite a reputation through their dramatic efforts. They do a great deal of corporate and individual service, their principal and hardest job being that of cleaning up the old Pioneers Cemetery. There are about 300 graves of what are known as Rhodesian Pioneers, for which no one accepts responsibility. Toc H have practically relaid the cemetery, taken up, relined and painted all the crosses, remade the paths and sieved all the earth (which is mainly gravel), and will soon be getting something planted. Work of this nature in the heat of the semi-tropics is a pretty good test of voluntary service.

From Salisbury, I went on to *Umtali*, probably one of the most beautiful spots in Southern Africa. It has magnificent drives and views all round. Here again both Toc H and Toc Emmas are extraordinarily virile. Their speciality is a monthly open guest night, when they practically entertain the town in the local *cafe* with either a concert, theatricals or lectures.

The great difficulty about Rhodesia is the fact that there is practically no centre of any size excepting on the main line of railway, and these are anything from 150 to 400 miles apart. It is, therefore, very difficult for any exchange of visits from Branches or clubs or to have any satisfactory central organisation. In spite of this, I think that Rhodesia, certainly Southern Rhodesia, has about the best collection of Groups we have in Africa.

September 14 : Umtali is situated practically on the Portuguese border, and the railway drops down from that place some 2,500 feet in a very few miles, then travels along a plateau about a hundred miles before it descends to sea level. Between Umtali and Beira is a tremendous swamp formed by the Pongwe River. They are building a new bridge over the river itself and at about 8 o'clock at night we were stopped there for nearly half an hour. Directly we stopped, I decided to shut the windows in the carriage, but found some difficulty in doing so owing to the rush of mosquitoes to get in. Each mosquito seemed to be about the size of a house fly, and before we left Pongwe I had been bitten all over, as they succeeded in penetrating three thicknesses of clothing. How on earth the unfortunate railway constructors manage to live there I cannot understand.

At *Beira* I found the group still struggling manfully. Most of the original members at Uncle Harry's meetings had left the place or dropped out, but there were about a dozen young fellows sticking it magnificently. They had met for a time in a room in the Eastern Telegraph building, then in the railway mess, then in each other's bedrooms, and, when I was there, at the office of the local newspaper. They had several obstacles to contend against; the inevitable inertia of a small tropical coast town, the slackness and licence of "Continental" life, and the difficulties of a small community in a foreign country. Fortunately, the Portuguese Government is very friendly; were it not so Toc H would not have been allowed to exist at all. They have in the past undertaken some tremendously big and difficult jobs, and ones which have perhaps been appreciated by the community as a whole. They are now, however, concentrating on the biggest of all which, if it succeeds, will be a permanent contribution to the town, namely the establishment of a Seaman's Institute, and the securing of a whole time padre for the English community. When I was last in Beira, eight years ago, there were no more than about three ships in port, and there was not a single motor car in the town, and the only means of transport were small trolleys pushed by natives on a light railway running along the sandy streets. This time there were about twenty-one large ships in port; at night, outside the local cinema, I counted over sixty cars and all the streets are being laid with concrete. The tone of the

place, has also, I think, improved tremendously. I remember when last there, one street which consisted of nothing but bars, practically every one of which was a centre for worse things than drink. To-day, most of these have been eradicated.

From Beira I took boat to Lourenco Marques, the capital of Portuguese East Africa. I was booked to travel by B.I., but going on board was met by a fellow traveller, who said they had smallpox, so I turned round and, after spending most of the night going up and down the harbour in the shore boat at a cost of about 10s. a mile, I succeeded in getting on a German boat also going South. We stayed on board two days before sailing, and the Toc H fellows took me up one day in a launch to a sugar factory up the Mbusi river, a very delightful trip.

At *Lourenco Marques* I was met by "Gaika" (Padre Kinsey), who had endeavoured to come by car from his home in Kimberley. He got as far as Ermelo in the Eastern Transvaal, but had to come on by train owing to the bad weather. The rains have been playing queer tricks this year. I had rain almost continuously from Knysna to Durban when it should have been dry, and it started to rain again at Lourenco Marques and went on all the way to Cape Town.

September 28 : I had received a letter from Padre Morton, the Missions of Seamen, Lourenco Marques, saying that he had talked to the Bishop Elef and the leading business men and they were all of the opinion that it was a waste of time coming to Lourenco Marques, as Toc H would never get going there, and Morton met me on the pier and that evening we went to his quarters and had a long talk. We found him terribly depressed, in a very bad state of health, and practically worn out. For seventeen years he had been struggling to get a building put up for the Missions to Seamen. He has just succeeded in getting the foundation stone laid, and was determined not to leave, although he was obviously unfit, until the walls were at least six feet high. His accounts of Lourenco Marques were most gloomy. This very obviously made it quite clear to "Gaika" and myself that we had to do something, so we called on the British Consul-General. We found him of tremendous help. He said at once that Toc H was obviously of immense value to the town, and he believed we should find no difficulty in getting the right type of men to try it out. He sat down at once and made out a list of likely people, and went round himself and got them to promise to attend a meeting at his house. He took me round to the two clubs, the Senior and the Junior British Clubs, and in the latter I found myself, within five minutes of arriving at the bar, involved in a tremendous argument as to whether a certain man who claimed to be agnostic was not really a Christian. The more the fellows pointed out that this particular man was doing Christian things, the angrier he got, but I think they finally defeated him. We subsequently dined with the Consul, and went to the meeting immediately afterwards, which resulted in a dozen of them arranging to meet in his house again a fortnight later.

Lourenco is a beautifully laid out town, and a real example of what can be done in the way of street planning. It has a very fine central square laid out in a sort of tessellated design with cafes at each corner and a bandstand in the centre. The whole population assembles there and sits out at little tables, while the military band plays after dinner. We also called on the Portuguese Scout Commissioner, who is a military officer and head of the Fire Brigade, and he took us round in his car. On Sunday he sent a party of Portuguese Scouts to look after us for the day; they took us up to see the Military Review and Sports, and all came to see us off when we left by train in the evening.

An excellent decision was come to at our meeting, namely to start right away by getting one or two of the best of the English-speaking Portuguese to come into Toc H. One of the great difficulties in Portuguese East, on the social service side, is that a purely British Toc H cannot do any service for the Portuguese community without coming under all sorts of suspicion. If once we can get an international group working then this difficulty will go and it will mean a real social fusion between the best of both nationalities.

We picked up "Gaika's" car at Ermelo, and then started a rapid trek, 2,000 miles, to Cape Town. The first night we arrived at Piet Retief, having only started at 5.30 p.m., next day at *Ladysmith*, got hold of a Toc H contact in the town of *Vryheid*, met some of the fellows at Ladysmith, and went through very heavy roads the following day to *Durban*. At Durban, the night we arrived we visited *Berea Group*, the following day attended meetings both at *Durban Central* and at *Hillary*, and on Sunday ran a broadcast service in the Baptist Central Church.

October 7: Last Monday, a week ago, we left Durban for Pietermaritzburg, stayed the night with Tatham, the registrar, and attended a joint meeting of Maritzburg City and Central. On Tuesday we arrived at *Ixopo*, and met Toc H and Toc Emmas in the hut they have just built—very fine group, mainly farmers. We were their guests in the local pub, and left at 6.30 the following morning for *Umtata*. We reckoned we should have breakfast at Kokstad, but we didn't actually get through until lunch time, owing to the appalling state of the roads, and the fact that we got on the wrong one. We, however, finally arrived at Umtata at about 10 o'clock at night, and routed out Padre Macdowell, who was just going to bed. The following morning we met some of the fellows in the town, and found that the Group which was started when I went through on my way up was really flourishing. They had a first-class lot of fellows, extraordinarily representative, who were doing a tremendous lot of work, but had no intention of applying for recognition yet awhile.

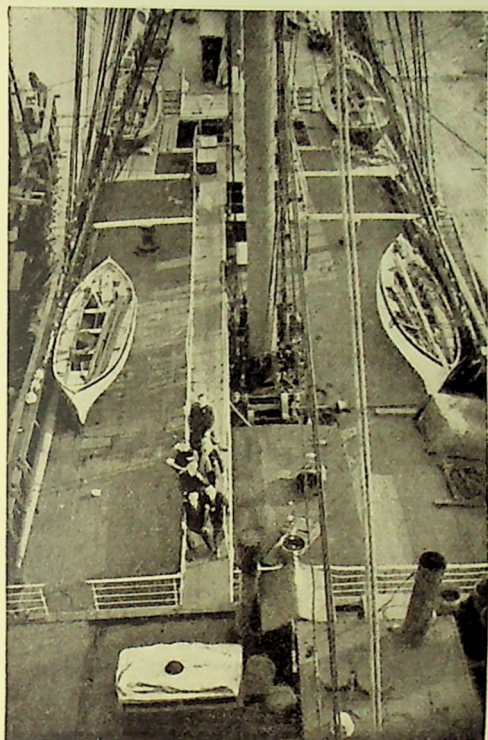
We left Umtata at about half past ten, and got into *East London* in the pouring rain at about half-past seven in the evening. We ran out of petrol about three miles out, and in trying to fill up from our reserve supply in the rain and the wind I got a violent attack of ague, and arrived looking thoroughly miserable and wrapped up in a rug. We turned in at the Toc H house where some of the fellows collected after dinner for a talk. They were being turned out by a heartless landlord, who apparently thought that he should take advantage of the summer season. They were looking out for a more permanent house, where they could get some other fellows in with them.

We left East London at daybreak, had breakfast at *King Williamstown*, where we met two or three of the members, lunched with Greener, the Job Master at *Grahamstown*, and would have got into Port Elizabeth just before dark had it not been that "Gaika" ran over a sheep. Having decided it was unlikely to live, he had to cut its throat on the road, and then we decided the only decent thing to do would be to go and tell the farmer whose house we saw about a quarter of a mile off. We gaily started down the farm track, and crossed what looked to us like a puddle, but found it was a clayhole, into which we dropped with the water and mud over the top of our running boards. It was impossible to get out, so we had to go and tell the farmer that not only had we killed his sheep, but that we wanted to borrow his oxen to pull us out. He was extremely nice, apparently very astonished that we should have bothered to come to him at all, and he brought his oxen and boys with spades and finally got us out.

At *Port Elizabeth*, we found that our telegram to K. C. Elliott had miscarried, and that he had gone out to the theatre. However, we camped down in his house until he returned, spent the night with him, and then left the following morning for Misgund. At Misgund we camped out, but it was so extraordinarily cold that we got very little sleep, although we tried to warm ourselves by dancing in the local store until about midnight. From Misgund we went on to the Wilderness, lunched at the hotel, and found Charlie Brown, the registrar of the Eastern Province, staying there. We went to his service in the evening, and left early the following morning, going straight through from there to Cape Town, 337 miles in twelve hours, arriving in Cape Town, as I left there nearly five months before, in the pouring rain.

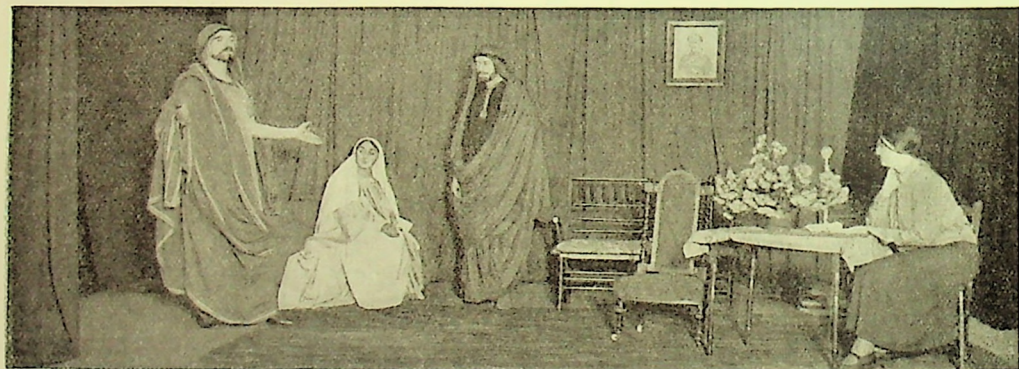
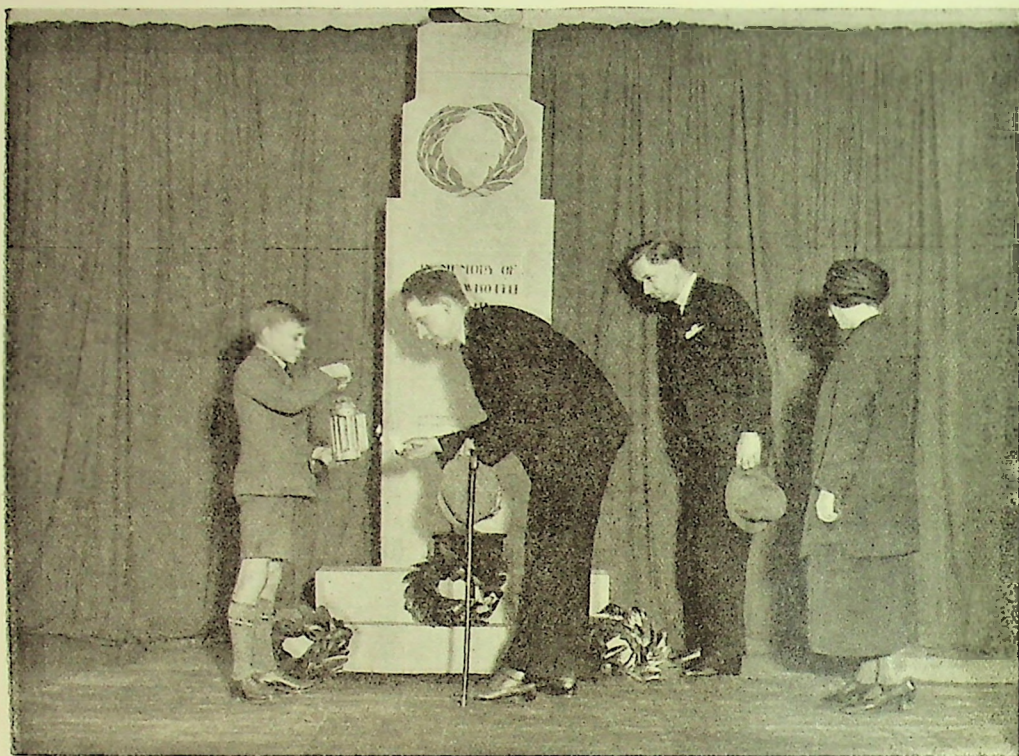
R. C. G.

(To be continued.)



On the night of November 11 the *Garthpool*, the oldest square-rigged four-masted ship flying the British flag, was wrecked on Boavista Island, Cape Verde. On the eve of this, her last voyage, she was visited by a Toc H team in Hull docks in October and her crew were entertained at Mark X before she sailed. Our pictures show Hull Toc H members on the deck as seen from the mast; the *Garthpool* in dock; and the Toc H members on board. Bill Newman (holding the small boy) actually sailed before the mast on this last voyage.





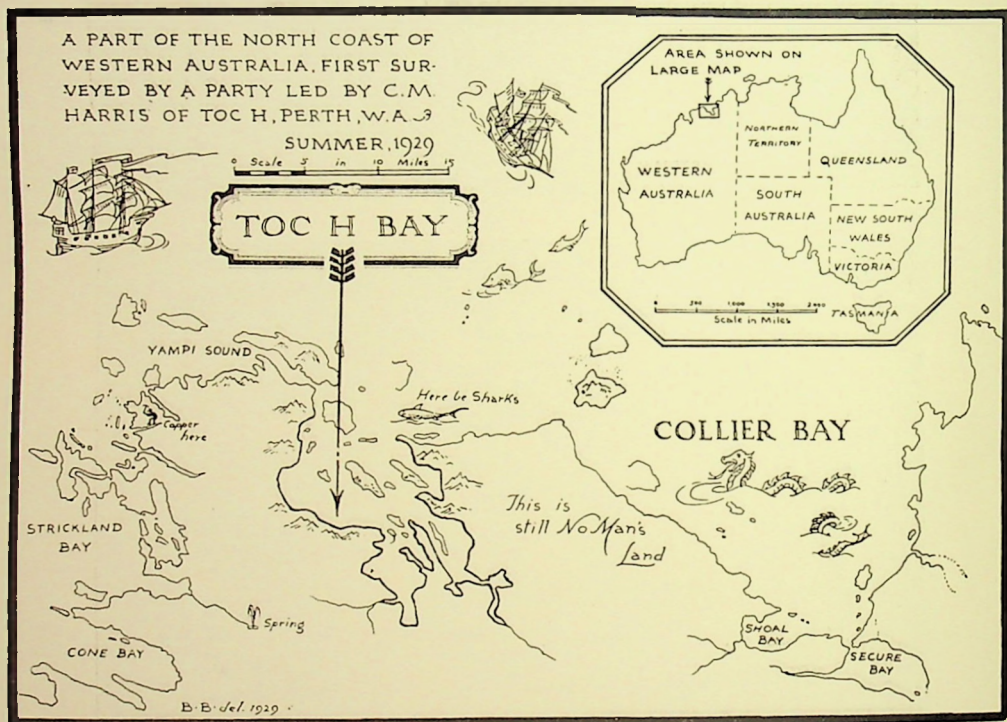
On November 11, Toc H and Y.W.C.A. in KENDAL celebrated Armistice together by an "Evening of Fellowship" in the course of which they produced *The Unknown Warrior* which formed Part II of the Toc H in Birthday Masque in 1926. The upper picture shows the blind ex-Serviceman at the War Memorial lighting the boy's lamp; the lower shows the war widow's vision of the Virgin Mary, Peter and John after the Crucifixion.



ABOVE : The Crusaders in the second Episode of the Masque, *The Light of the Lamp*, in Birmingham Town Hall on November 10.

BELOW : The Lord Mayor lighting the Lamps. (See page 406.)

(Photographs : Midland Press Agency.)



The Map shows "No. 2 Concession," part of the area surveyed by a party of the Kimberley Exploitation Syndicate, led by C. M. Harris (Toc H, Perth, W.A.), on the little-known northern coast of Western Australia, in August, 1929. The left-hand photograph shows the party itself, with "Father" Harris on the left; the right-hand picture gives a view of Toc H Bay.

(Copyright : C. M. Harris.)

TOC H ON THE MAP

WITH the Fourteenth Birthday comes the news—many will maintain that it is no news at all—that Toc H is at last firmly and finally set on the map. As god-parent, Toc H has given its name to a newly discovered bay which washes the hot rocky shores of a land that may one day be one of the richest corners of the Empire. To-day its waters are alive with crocodile and sharks, and the ranges which run down to a fringe of sandalwood by the sea, have so far guarded the riches of the rolling hill country beyond. But, like Toc H itself, it has great possibilities and a bright future.

The story of its discovery and christening is an interesting one. Early in the past summer C. M. ("Father") Harris of the Perth Branch set out to lead an exploration party for the Kimberly Exploitation Syndicate to that little-known northern coast of Western Australia which looks across towards the East Indies, some five hundred miles away. For many weeks on end the party explored the rough hills inland, and charted the windings of the coast. Among others, they discovered a wide bay, some fifty square miles of hitherto unknown waters, possibly the long-sought entrance to the fertile country behind the ranges. This, Harris named after the thing which he had not only left behind, but was taking with him, and it stands on the map henceforward as Toc H Bay, Western Australia.

At present he is resting on a farm near Perth, and from there has sent to England the two photographs reproduced opposite, together with a boomerang of friendship carved of sandalwood from the bay. The first photograph shows the members of the party among the scrub near the shore, with "Father" Harris in dark glasses on the left, while in the second can be seen the waters of the bay and the quartzite cliffs which line it two miles away in the distance. In the foreground is the *kaiwa* or raft, during one of the many processes of shifting camp. Her cargo includes the family furniture, seven dogs, and "Black Gin," while Billy, her man, is acting as a very efficient outboard motor in a sea infested with sharks and crocodiles.

Meanwhile, there is more unknown land beyond, and the natives of the party have sent to learn of the return of "the white feller chief" who led them. By April of next year Harris hopes to be once again exploring the first part of the world to take as its name, from the first coming of man, the anagram of a world-wide desire "To Conquer Hate."

Two Important Forthcoming Events

- THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL will be held on the afternoon of April 26, 1930, at Talbot House, 42, Trinity Square, London, E.C.3. Details later.
- THE BIRTHDAY FESTIVAL OF TOC H AUSTRALIA will be held at Sydney on April 29-May 3, 1930. *Provisional programme*: Tuesday, April 29, Civic reception, Garden party, "get-together" evening; April 30, Conference, Men's Guest-night; May 1, Thanksgiving service; May 2, Guest-night with L.W.H.; May 3, Holy Communion, Conference, Public Guest-night in Sydney Town Hall.

"THE LIGHT OF THE LAMP" AT BIRMINGHAM

THE Birmingham District, following Newcastle's lead, performed the Masque "The Light of the Lamp" at the Town Hall, Birmingham, on Armistice Sunday evening, November 10. Only those who were connected with the previous performance at the Albert Hall in 1925 can appreciate the amount of work involved in the production. The Town Hall, too, has its disadvantages—the stage had to be erected and the lighting installed on Sunday morning—but it also has its advantages, notably the presence of a very fine organ.

The Hall was full with some 1,500 persons when Mr. G. D. Cunningham, the City Organist, began playing the Prelude to the Five Episodes, which depict the ideals of service and sacrifice throughout the ages. The Spirit of Light, clad in the now familiar garb, was impersonated by Henry Hallatt, a general member of Toc H (now appearing at the Royalty and Everyman Theatres, London) who sacrificed his little spare time to give a magnificent performance.

The First Episode showed a band of early Christians gathered round their altar outside Rome at the time of persecution. They were surprised by Roman soldiers and led away captive, singing *The Hymn of Light*. But one small boy crept back and rekindled the Catacombe Lamp on the altar, after it had been extinguished by the captors.

The Spirit of Light next introduced the audience to the Richard Coeur-de-Lion Chapel at All Hallows, on the eve of the Third Crusade, in 1189. Four knights had just completed their vigil when King Richard arrived with a procession including the Bishop of London, who delivered a charge and blessed them before their departure to the Holy Land.

The Third Episode was a scene at the front line in the Ypres sector in 1916 and was acted by members of the Fifth Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in realistic fashion. A wounded man is seen in "No Man's Land" and the Captain and Sergeant immediately crawl out to his rescue. A "Verrey" light is sent up by the enemy whilst they are gone and machine-gun fire follows. They return with the wounded man whom the platoon immediately succours. The Captain, however, has been mortally wounded and dies with the words "A Light!"

Probably it was the Fourth Episode that caused the *Birmingham Mail* to write that no more impressive addition to the Armistice commemoration had ever been made. The scene opens with a procession of representatives of various organisations to a village War Memorial on Armistice Sunday. A Toc H man brings up the rear of the party, leading a blind and embittered ex-Service man, who refuses to go into the church. He remains seated by the Memorial and a storm breaks, during which he sees a vision of the first Easter morning. Peter and John are bewailing the past and the future. All to them appears lost. Whilst the Madonna is gently rebuking them, the news arrives that the Tomb is empty. Mary Magdalene then appears having seen the risen Lord. Rejoicing they disappear to seek the Master and the blind man awakes from his dream enlightened, and cries, "I see—I see the Light—The Light of the World."

The last Episode consisted of the procession of over thirty Lights and Banners of the West Midland Area, and certain visiting families from further afield, on to the platform, where they were lit by the new Lord Mayor (Alderman M. L. Lancaster) from the parent Lamp of the Area, that of Mark VI Branch. During the entry of the Lamps and Rushlights, J. S. Arkwright's Hymn, *Valiant Hearts* was sung. This was followed by the Ceremony of Light, taken by Reevo (Area Padre) and concluding with the singing of *The Inheritance and Jerusalem*.

Birmingham are to be congratulated upon a wonderful production. They would, however, be the first to acknowledge that it was only made possible by the assistance of many outside bodies and persons—especially Mr. Vincent Curran, the producer, and Mr. Cunningham, the City Organist, who also conducted the chorus of fifty from the City of Birmingham Choir.

J. M.

MULTUM IN PARVO

♣ **NEW STAFF APPOINTMENTS:** From January PAUL SLESSOR, Hon. District Secretary, Bromley District, will join the Staff as Special Assistant to the Administrator and General Secretary. He is not likely to be available ordinarily for Branch or Group meetings. On the same date, GEOFFREY MARTIN, formerly of the Brothers' House, will become Assistant to the Chief Overseas Commissioner (Harry Ellison) at 42, Trinity Square, E.C.3.

♣ **AREA CHANGES:** Three important changes in Areas have been made. Lincolnshire, formerly in the E. Yorks and Lincs. Area, and served by the Hull Padre, is linked up with the E. Midland Area, now to be known as the E. MIDLANDS AND Lincs. AREA, with Arthur Siderfin as Area Padre and Colin Stevenson as Area Secretary. The Hull Padre, Jim Tytler, will work entirely in the E. Yorks. and Hull Districts, which form part of the Yorkshire Council Area. Padre Theodor Brochner will now be Area Padre (part-time) for a new SOUTHERN AREA consisting of the Bournemouth and E. Dorset District, Southampton District, Portsmouth Branch, and units in the Isle of Wight and Channel Islands. Sussex is transferred to the SOUTH-EASTERN AREA, which now includes all units in Sussex and those in Kent and Surrey not included in the London Federation.

♣ SECRETARIES' LIST: ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS.

(a) *New Groups:* BANGOR, R. Idris Williams, 2, Deanfield; BARNOLDSWICK, George Rostron, Brentwood, Coates; BERKHAMPSTED, O. Hager, Langdale, Ashlyn Road; BUCKHURST HILL (Essex), William Rose, "Braxted," Scotland Road; CRANBROOK, F. B. Budgeon, "Darmil," High Street; DUNTON GREEN, H. G. Chick, "Beech Coppice," Dunton Green, Sevenoaks; REDCAR, F. Millington, 93, Queen Street; WELLINGBOROUGH, Ralph Barton, 2, Redwell Road; WELLINGTON, Oscar S. Hughes, Bryn Avon; WELWYN GARDEN CITY, J. H. Chilman, 29, Ravenfield Road.

(b) *Change of Secretary:* BARNSLEY, R. S. Kitlew, 289, Dodworth Road; BURNHOPE,

A. T. Rooney, 1, The Avenue; CAERPHILLY, B. Jenkins, Brooklyn, Prince's Avenue; CANTERBURY, W. H. Griffin, 172, Wincheap; CARSHALTON, H. W. Newens, "Bright-holme," Barrow Avenue; DERBY, F. H. Adams, 56, Village Street, Normanton; GAINSBOROUGH, W. J. Pigram, 3, Acacia Avenue; GLASGOW, P. Mitchell, 5, Canning Place; GRANTHAM, C. W. Lee, 43, North Parade; IBSTOCK, E. G. Harratt, 8, Orchard Street; LEAMINGTON, A. J. Smith, 25, Alexandra Road; LLANDAFF, S. Scott, 9, Gileston Road, Cardiff; LURGAN, John A. Ross, 19, Avenue Road (after Christmas); ISLE OF MAN, W. F. Gibbons, "Craigmore," Ballasalla; NORWOOD, D. E. J. Rottenbury, 100, Clive Road, West Dulwich, S.E.21; PENRITH, Stanley Hulse, 92, Castle Drive; PENZANCE, C. C. Taylor, "Berwyn," Greenbank; PRESTON, R. E. Pater, 69, Frenchwood Street; READING, T. R. Farmer, St. Lawrence Old Schools, Abbey Street; RETFORD, G. R. West, 26, Market Square; SEDBERGH, E. Dinsdale, 6, Loftus Hill; SHEFFIELD, F. E. Clarke, 34, Osborne Road, Nether Edge; SOLIHULL, E. W. French, 28, Douglas Road; ACOCKS GREEN, Birmingham; WIGAN, W. Gabbott, 20, Upper Doconson Street; WORTHING, J. M. Magwick, "Pendennis," Reigate Road; EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT (to include Broxbourne, Waltham Cross, Hertford), C. J. Jones, 41, Whitley Road, Hoddesdon. *Overseas.*—MALTA, Trevor Hayles, c/o Malta Garrison Library. *South Africa:* EAST LONDON, Hugh L. Kidman, P.O. Box 305.

(c) *Change of Secretary's Address and Correction:* CROYDON, Secretary to Westminster Bank House, Coulsdon; MIRFIELD (Yorks), Secretary to 348, Huddersfield Road, Battyfield. *Overseas:* PORT ELIZABETH, Secretary to Box 291, Port Elizabeth. STOKE-ON-TRENT, Secretary's address is "Gawsworth," Stone Road, Trentham.

(d) *Change of Name:* North Staffordshire Branch has changed its name to STOKE-ON-TRENT; Abbassia Group has changed its name to CAIRO.

NEWS FROM BRANCHES AND GROUPS

London Federation

Northern District. On November 9, the Drama League produced *Tons of Money* at the Northern Polytechnic. This splendid performance, played to a packed audience, is expected to contribute nearly £100 to the Northern District Endowment Fund Effort. Many prospective recruits to the Group, now senior members of Boys' Clubs, were much impressed by Bert Parr's talk on "Witnessing Humbly," at HOXTON on November 6. Gilbert Williams spoke on Toc H at a special service on Armistice Sunday at St. Andrews, MUSWELL HILL, when the local group were supported by neighbouring units, and all were afterwards present at the dedication of the new Meeting Room. Fifty members and friends foregathered for the most enjoyable first Birthday of NEW BARNET Group on October 21. They also organised a most successful concert by the Doctona Players on November 7, in aid of the Endowment Fund. WOOD GREEN have undertaken to send sixty members to assist at the Church Army Centre, a job of great possibilities. GOLDERS GREEN, of the *North Western District*, held a Whist Drive on October 24, for the Quota and Endowment Funds, at which over a hundred people were present. On Armistice Sunday, the Group took part in a service

conducted by their own padre, Herbert Trundle, at the Local War Memorial at Four Cross Roads.

In the *Western District*, HAMMERSMITH were well supported on Armistice Sunday, when Pat Leonard preached at a District corporate service at Holy Innocents' Church, initiated four new members, and had a pleasant chat afterwards in the parish room. ACTON joined with the League of Nations Union in arranging a big meeting on Armistice Day, and EALING undertook the arrangement of a public service of thanksgiving and remembrance in the Town Hall on the same day, Toc H and L.W.H. combining to form a choir. Everyman's Club at Ealing is meeting a long-felt want, and many young people find the warm, cosy rooms a cheerful alternative to the street corners on Sunday afternoons. FULHAM did a good turn to SOUTH KENSINGTON "Grove" by teaching them something of the workings of Toc H before they started out on their own. The latter are now doing capital work. UXBRIDGE, in their new quarters above a stable on the outskirts of the town, gave a warm welcome to Ealing members, and SOUTHALL, too, are making arrangements to receive guests early in the New Year.

South-Eastern Area

In the *West Surrey District*, LEATHERHEAD, who have decided to help a Poplar parish as district job, are collecting clothes for this work. They have also arranged to help the Church Army Campaign locally at the end of November, and to start a library and book circle. The programme before Christmas includes talks by Jack Clark (Warden) and Basil Tilley (Jobmaster), of Mark VII, and by Major Wyatt on the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, as well as a dance, whist drive and concert for the ex-

Service men at the Milner Home. WEYBRIDGE had an inspiring talk on the Old House on October 10 by Brockway, their foundation member from Norwich. A new series of discussions on the relation between Toc H and different aspects of life—religion, industry, amusement, politics—was opened by Padre Budden, on "Toc H and Religion." At an evening spent with the L.W.H. on October 31, the shining example to the Branch of Edward Everest, lately passed over, was discussed and appreciated. On Armistice

Day the Pilot placed a wreath on the War Memorial, and the Branch listened to *Journey's End* with intense interest. FOLKESTONE imploded in a body at CANTERBURY'S very happy and songful Birthday Guest-Night on November 7. The Folkestone Toc H Dramatic Club will present *The Cricket on the Hearth* at the Town Hall on December 18, 19, 20. CRANBROOK have built a good Group on the basis of four months' steady "groping," under the wing of TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Jobs include visiting the Kent County Convalescent Home and preparing a concert to bring some Christmas cheer to its inmates, as well as assisting the League of Nations Union County Campaign, and Scouting. Fifteen members and probationers were able to get a real grasp of Toc H at the District Guest-night at Tunbridge Wells, where Sawbones talked. At the WEST KENT Rally on October 9, at OFFHAM, Gilbert Williams outlined the formation of the new Maidstone District Committee, and its workings. He

was followed by Brinton (Maidstone), who gave a sane and thought-provoking talk on the League of Nations. On November 7, DUNTON GREEN first received their Rushlight. EAST FARLEIGH Wing have moved into new and larger quarters at Court Lodge Farm Office, where they now hold meetings twice a month. A very sociable Family Supper on October 16, at which Todd Thornberry spoke, opened the OTFORD winter programme, which has included also an interesting talk by Garrard on "The Production of Oriental Carpets." The Wing are looking for a job in the coming restoration of their church. A Branch Dinner at the Memorial Hall, PLATT, is planned for December 11. On Armistice Sunday, MAIDSTONE members, after Holy Communion and corporate breakfast, took turns in tending the Lamp, which was left burning throughout the day. The room in which it stood was open for prayer and meditation till 8 o'clock, when an address closed an impressive day.

Eastern Area and East Midlands

On October 15, Chubb of CLACTON gave from his own experience some vivid impressions of gold-seeking at the age of sixteen. Two days later, in response to an appeal by the Wesley Guild, the Branch led a public debate on the thorny subject of "Progress." Many members on their way to implode at a WALTON Meeting, came across a dangerously high-speed Flying Squad coming from Colchester in charge of John Mallett. Padre Ison and Padre Higgs, fresh from West Africa, were in charge of the inspiring Armistice Sunday Service at St. Paul's Church.

CARLTON and ABINGTON have both done good work to earn their newly-acquired Branch status, and WELLINGBOROUGH are also very welcome as a Group. DERBY are discussing the possibility of a Mark in their town, following the stimulation of Tubby's visit. Two of ANSTEY'S successful Guest-nights were on "The Better-Half of Toc H," by Peter, of Mark XI, and "Proofs of the Writers of the Gospels," by B. Clomene.

BELGRAVE, with the aim of seeing the other point of view and "thinking fairly," have arranged a series of talks by members on their jobs in life, from which they hope to gain, and are gaining, much profit. The standard up to which we have to live as members of Toc H was the message of Presco on another recent night. The Group also attended COALVILLE'S fifth Birthday on October 15, when a crowd of 160 filled the Stable to hear Sawbones on "Our Responsibilities," after an impressive service and sermon by Padre Perry in the Parish Church. IBSTOCK has founded a Boys' Club of its own, in which interest is very strong. There is difficulty in obtaining suitable place for Sunday evening concerts, but in spite of this a Glee Party is being formed. The new chapel in the "Loft" over WIGSTON'S meeting-room was recently dedicated by their old padre, "Fanny" West, now Vicar of Peatling. The Group has also given a willing hand in the service of local flag-days.

West Midlands

Although still without a regular job, KIDDERMINSTER have been busy lately helping in the Hospital Carnival, stewarding at a Church Schools Bazaar, and manning the lifeboat which paraded the town on Lifeboat Saturday. The Group are planning a new boys' club, and on Armistice Day held a short service at H.Q. Fifteen members were initiated, and the Rushlight handed over by "Reevo," Area Padre, at the Dedication Service of SHREWSBURY Group on September 5, at St. Chad's Church, when

representatives of all neighbouring units were present, and contributed items to the Guest-night. Good jobs were the removal and fixing of all the furniture for an orphan home, and a concert given at the Prison. On November 3, the Archbishop of York and Archdeacon Hunkin (Branch President) visited RUGBY Headquarters, and the Archbishop gave an address on fellowship and how it might cope with the great problem of shifting population. We congratulate Padre Heawood on his recent engagement.

Yorkshire Council Area

GOOLE are striving hard to find a new home for their weekly meetings, now far more successful than the old fortnightly ones. BEVERLEY are preparing enthusiastically for their annual kiddies treat, while COTTINGHAM organised a boisterous Armistice Night Rag for Earl Haig's Fund. A talk on Toc H in India by Jim Tytler, and a debate on the question "Does the apparent expense of Toc H tend to frighten new members away?" have given NEULAND two of their most interesting Guest-nights for a long while. The Group welcome their old Pilot, G. R. Nightingale, back from Denmark. BARTON, the baby of the district, whose Dedication Service was held on October 18, have proved exceptionally keen, and raised a good round sum for the children of unemployed by a happy concert on November 6. On the same day Jim Tytler spoke at a public meeting at Willerly and Kirkeeld. MARK X was the

scene of the first of a succession of quarterly Jobmasters', Secretaries', and Pilots' Conferences, on November 9. HAREHILLS, another daughter Group of LEEDS Branch, are to be congratulated on reaching Group status. The latter collected nearly £100 on Poppy Day, the only occasion of the year when they waive their rule not to collect for other organisations. They join with all other Yorkshiremen in showing their appreciation of their President's lately-announced gift and promise of a new House in the city. Celebrations of Holy Communion on Thursday mornings have been started by the padres of the District at the RED HOUSE, by which they and the House have got to know each other better. Tubby's visit to the Chapel was a source of much new enthusiasm. WAKEFIELD have started a Boys' Club and are organising a concert to be given by Dr. Barnardo's Home boys.

Northern and North-Western Area

NORTH SHIELDS re-dedicated itself on November 5, on the completion of its second year of work on Armistice Evening. The service was conducted by Padre Sam Davis, and the sermon preached by the Rev. Morgan Dennis. At the Annual Meeting, the Job-

master gave details of jobs done; a library of 800 volumes has been formed for the patients of Tynemouth Infirmary; the welfare of the local blind and emigrants has been studied; and the Scout movement helped. BLACKPOOL has received Branch status following work

in Poor Kiddies' Holiday Camps, Scouts, visiting the Blind, Deaf and Dumb Institutes, Boys' Club, and the North Wales Miners' Appeal. NORTHWICH have left their old and somewhat icy rooms for the lately converted stables which are their new Headquarters. There are three rooms in all, including a Chapel above, and a Guest-night Room. With the help of the L.W.H. and

other friends, the work was finished by October, and on October 14 Sawbones dedicated the Chapel, and the other rooms were well and truly house-warmed by friends and L.W.H. from many Branches and Groups. WITHINGTON passed an evening that will not soon be forgotten, when they listened by firelight at Bonzo's home to *Journey's End* on Armistice Night.

Southern and Western Areas

A Rest Room for the unemployed of the city was opened last month by PORTSMOUTH, and is now running successfully. The preliminary work for the formation of a blood-transfusion service is now being undertaken. There are hopes of inaugurating a new "grope" at Fareham. The Rev. Anderson of Boldre urged SOUTHAMPTON "to carry on the good work once begun," at their Annual Service at St. Mary's Church on October 30. His advice was timely as there are now four well-established groups working hard in the city. After the service, Admiral Richard Phillamore presided over a supper and concert, at which 138 members were present. MARK V have achieved a fine contact of friendship with the University. £200 was raised by a Sale of Work for urgently needed repairs to the Mark on November 6, when a lace shawl sent by the Queen was sold. After six months' "groping," RYE became

a Group, with the sponsorship of HASTINGS, on November 6. Padre Sinclair Brook came from TUNBRIDGE WELLS to hold the ceremony before fifty members, including many from BEXHILL and BATTLE. A regular job is the cheering of the old people at the Workhouse. HASTINGS opened with a happy B.Y.O.G. and business meeting, followed the next week by Mance on "Deep Sea Cables." On September 19, the Branch carried a motion, "That diplomatic relations should be resumed with Russia," and for the following days was busy preparing a dray for the hospital procession, on which was a large model of the Lamp, with a Tommy handing on the Torch of Service to a Toc H member of to-day.

SHERBORNE threw open their doors to the Fair people during the Pack Monday Fair, and provided them with welcome refreshments and friendly companionship.

Wales

Wales, as a whole, is again appealing to Branches and Groups throughout Great Britain for much-needed winter help in its distressed areas. The Sidney Byass Welsh Lamp, in memory of the first Chairman, will, it is hoped, be dedicated at Llandaff Cathedral on January 18, with the Archbishop of Wales to officiate. Other attractions of the same day are the CARDIFF Birthday Festival, and, the England v. Wales Rugby International, also at Cardiff. Following a joint meeting on

October 22, MORRISTON decided to forgo their own Birthday Festival in order to join that of SWANSEA in February. There are rumours that Tubby has consented to come. On October 26, NEWPORT held their Birthday Festival, at which the Ceremony of Grand Light was held in St. Woolos pro-Cathedral, and an address given by Padre Molyneux, who was so popular in the North when padre at Hull. The King's Head was the scene of a very cheery gathering afterwards, at which

the Archdeacon of Monmouth spoke many words of wit and wisdom. NEATH held their Festival on October 24, with a service at St. Thomas' Church, a sermon straight from the shoulder by Padre Bill Maddocks, a Guest-night Supper at the Town Hall, and finally a dance to finish the evening. Padre Molyneux gave a wonderful talk worthy of a larger audience at PORT TALBOT'S Birthday on November 9, at the Wesleyan Church, after which there was a repast at the Toc H rooms, when Geoffrey Byass, Branch Chairman, spoke. All members felt the great loss of Sir Sidney Byass, Bart., the father

of Port Talbot Branch. It is hoped that YSTRAD MYNACH (quite a simple name in reality, and which means Monk Street) will soon be recognised as a group. COLWYN BAY opened their very successful Third Birthday Festival, on October 9, with a sociable hot-pot supper at Rydal School. Guests from many Branches and Groups took part enthusiastically in community singing in the Church Room, heard a report of jobs, and listened attentively to Tubby's great speech on the problems of class distinction and snobbery in youth, and the great value of laughter as a means to sweep them away.

Ireland : Northern Section

In ARMAGH, a regular concert party is a new development this winter. LURGAN has been going on with its Boys' Club, and one member is giving hints to Rovers. A Farmers' Club project is maturing. In BELFAST two new "Gropes" are promising. The Annual Meeting of the Newsboys' Club was remarkable for its report of progress, and its whole network of activities. At the Armistice Anniversary, Australia, Tanganyika and Toronto were represented. On another evening there was a keen discussion on Kenya, and at the Ladies' Guest-night "Citizenship"

was the theme, with special reference to education. The KNOCK Group have a League of Nations discussion to report. Borstal and Reformatory activities are growing, and the Prison still needs two teachers to complete the staff. A library scheme, first for the Prison, and now to be extended to other institutions, has been a subject for committee. The Carnegie Trust, with which closer links are hoped for, supplied money in 1926, and a committee under Toc H auspices, with the Vice-Chancellor as President, administered the Fund.

News from Overseas Branches and Groups

AUSTRALIA

ADELAIDE has sent nineteen children to the seaside for the October holiday, with all possible help from many quarters and also taken them to Nohoon and the Astoria. Mattresses were made at a work evening, and ample funds, raised by collecting members, enabled the children to have a great time. Not long ago the ROCKHAMPTON Group (Queensland) applied itself to a garden that had run wild. Saturday afternoon is the time one generally sees devoted to these diversions, but Rockhampton elected to do their little job on a series of successive cold

frosty mornings before pursuing their usual avocations. The effect on the populace was impressive. We are told that having in mind the number of similar before-breakfast jobs that have been offered since, the Group has difficulty in realising that there are thousands unemployed in Queensland. The same Group not long ago lost its first secretary, who had gone into double harness, and at the same time moved to Ingham. Frank Heaton took the Toc H bacteria thoroughly into his blood, so we have high hopes of brewings in Ingham ere long. In New South

Wales, the family at NEWCASTLE Branch have just celebrated another birthday, but at the time of writing no details of their festivities are to hand; it may be taken as certain, though, that much of it would centre in the Warriors Chapel, which has been described as "a poem in stone." Another birthday celebration in Sydney, though not a Toc H affair, claims passing interest. The N.S.W. headquarters are in the parish of the historic church of S. James, which on October 5 and 6 celebrated its 110th anniversary. It enjoys the distinction of being the oldest church on its original foundation in the Commonwealth. It is strange that surmounting the steeple of the old Church is the double transomed cross of Toc H. And this is flood-lit every night. The same symbol figures at the head of the notice board outside, placed there scores of years before Toc H was born; to-day, happily enough, the Sydney Family shelters within its parish, and regards S. James as its guild-church. BALLARAT Group (Victoria) is congratulating itself on acquiring Dr "Sos" Slater, one of the original members of the Fitzroy Group, who is now attached to the Ballarat Hospital. Being something of a radio fan, when he is not patching up patients he is keeping the hospital set in trim for their benefit. Story has it that he turns his own gramophone into a broadcasting set sometimes of an evening, to while away weary hours for the patients. During the month, there was a reunion of the boys who attended Lord Somers' Camp at Anglesea last January, and a very cheerful evening was spent. The Federal H.Q. of Toc H, as at the Camp itself, was the moving spirit in arranging the details of the evening's activity. According to cabled Press reports, when His Excellency was leaving London on his return to Australia, he laughingly told some friends he would smell the gum leaves before them. Seizing on this

remark, his young camp guests arranged to send a bunch of fresh gum tips to meet His Excellency at Fremantle with their greetings and a welcome home. The Federal Council of Toc H Australia meets in Melbourne at the end of October. Following on that it is expected that Padre Ted Davidson will go over to Tasmania and take part in that State's Family birthday in Hobart on November 2. E. E. Unwin, of the Tasmanian State Executive, passed through Melbourne last week on his return from a trip to England. The Family in the Apple Isle have added another unit to their number, BEACONSFIELD Group having made its debut, and, as in other cases of Groups in the northern end of the State, the Launceston boys have kept in touch with the new Family in its beginnings. Beaconsfield is only a few miles inside the Tamar River on its west bank. In the early days of Tasmania, this was a mining town of some repute. It is worthy of comment that Toc H has a remarkable grip in Western Australia. Per head of population the Golden West leads the rest of the Commonwealth in Toc H membership. On September 20, the State passed its fourth milestone in Toc H, with the usual festivities. They are busy working up an "Old English Fair," to be held in December, following on Brisbane's lead of last year; this one also is being held on Government House grounds, kindly lent by Sir William Campion, who is more than an active member himself. The youngest country group in the western State is KELLERBERRIN, and in that band are two farmer-members who travel fifteen miles to their meetings with a regularity that should make some city and suburban members we meet at times stop and think a little. West Australia is justly proud of its organisation of "Ugly Men"; according to competition reports KATANNING Group possesses the ugliest of them.

INDIA AND CEYLON

H.M.S. EFFINGHAM Group arranged a cheery show at COLOMBO on September 5. Toc H, with the assistance of the Garrison,

beat the Navy at Soccer; then came the "Light," and the initiation of five new Effingham members; and finally a Naval

concert and the gift of a framed photograph of the ship to Colombo. Toc H made a good showing at the Boys' Club Sports, when thirty-one boys from Slave Island Club carried off six events and were placed in several others. On September 7, twenty boys arrived on the S.S. *Orsova*, and a fortnight later twenty-seven on the *Orvieto*. This meant two cheery days at North Camp and in the woodlands behind. The Branch are all sorry to say good-bye to J. J. Coon, and his concerts by the shore on odd Saturdays will long be remembered.

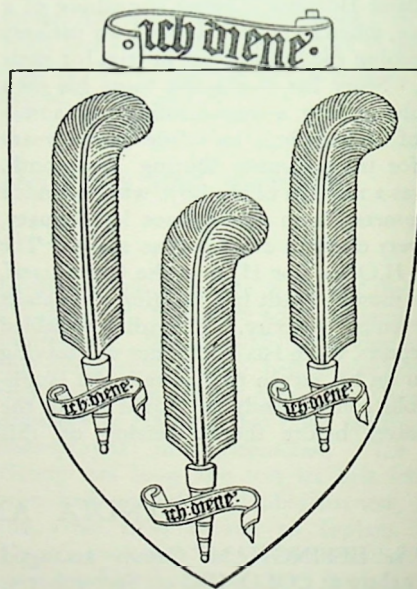
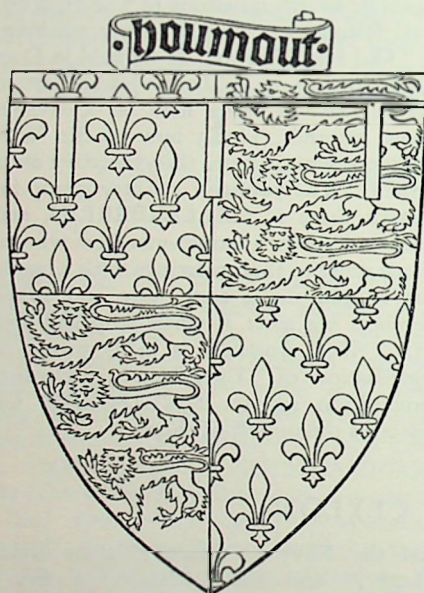
Campbell gave a long talk with a wide view

to the Madras Rotary Club on October 18 on Toc H in general and its work in MADRAS in particular. He described especially the jobs in hand—Fort St. George and the Mount Recreation Rooms, Scouts, Boys' Club, the occasional organisation of lectures and cinema shows for hospitals, visiting of the Penitentiary, the Mental Hospital, the Civil Orphans' Asylum, and the provision of games and concerts for the children. Finally, he emphasised the great good, and the need of help, in the work for seamen, and told of the welcome waiting for them at the Toc H rooms when on shore.

CANADA

ST. JAMES, WINNIPEG, has been doing much good work among the unattached boys of the city by organising street *versus* street baseball matches as a way of attracting

them to deeper things. By this means and through a winter Hockey League, not only boys, but many fathers, as well, have been introduced into Toc H.



Arms of the Prince of Wales in the 14th Century.